

INSIDE



Celebrating Jazz Month

Terri Lyne Carrington, the 2021 Library of Congress jazz scholar, will perform virtually this month and demonstrate jazz drumming fundamentals.

PAGE 3

Reading Around the States

In a new Center for the Book program, members of Congress read from favorite titles for young readers.

PAGE 4



Cherry Blossom Festival

To celebrate the National Cherry Blossom Festival this year, the Library released a video series inspired by the Library's collections.

PAGE 5

Q&A: Peter DeCraene

DeCraene is the Library's 2020-21 Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator in the Center for Learning, Literacy and Engagement.

PAGE 6



The loc.gov development team has been meeting remotely during the pandemic to discuss digitized Library collections to be published online.

Development Team Brings Digital Collections to Life

OCIO developers create online showcases for the Library's unique treasures.

BY SAHAR KAZMI

A halo of turquoise and gold encircles Gautama Buddha as he sits in meditation on a bed of lotus flowers, plumes of green clouds curling behind him. Now, he's more easily accessible than ever through the Asian Reading Room's newly redesigned webpages. The vibrant image is one of several hundred woodblock prints painted in dazzling color in the four-volume digital collection "The Origin of Buddhism and Its Development in China" (<https://go.usa.gov/xstby>).

The collection is among a swiftly growing set of Library materials users can now explore online thanks to the creative efforts of the loc.gov development team and

an ongoing collaboration between Library Services and the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO).

Published last month by OCIO's IT Design and Development Directorate, the Asian Reading Room site is the first in a series of user-centered redesigns for the Library's reading room webpages.

Created in partnership with experts from the Asian Division and significantly updated from its long-standing legacy format, the completely revamped Asian Reading Room site (<https://go.usa.gov/xstDs>) features an easy-to-browse visual style that matches the rest of loc.gov, a gallery of spotlighted collections and seamless connec-

NOTICES

DONATED TIME

The following employees have satisfied eligibility requirements to receive leave donations from other staff members. Contact Lisa Davis at lidav@loc.gov.

Lynette Brown
Bailey Cahall

William Mahannah
Eric Wolfson

COPYRIGHT TEA: FIND YOURSELF IN MAPS

April 15, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

[Online](#)

Pour a cup of tea and join the Copyright Office online as we celebrate the rich history of copyright and maps. The office's librarian-in-residence Marilyn Creswell will discuss how maps were the first category of creative works protected by copyright and how they evolved through human history. Some of the maps she highlights will appear in the office's upcoming exhibit, "Find Yourself in Copyright."

Closed captioning will be provided. Questions? Contact amro@copyright.gov.

WOMEN WHO LEAD AT THE LIBRARY

April 22, 1 to 2 p.m.

"Women Who Lead at the Library: A Conversation with Lanisa Kitchiner and Kate Zwaard" will take place online on April 22 from 1 to 2 p.m. It is the first event of the Library of Congress Professional Association's new Women's Forum for Growth and Networking (<https://go.usa.gov/xHcq4>), launched to support women's careers and foster a sense of community. The forum holds monthly planning meetings at 2 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of every month. All are welcome.

[Click](#) to participate in the April 22 event. [Click](#) to participate in monthly planning meetings.

Questions? Contact Jocelyn McNamara, jmcnamara@loc.gov or Stacey Devine, sdev@loc.gov.

UPDATED EMERGENCY GUIDANCE

With enhanced security measures continuing to remain in place on Capitol Hill, the Security and Emergency Preparedness Directorate has made available phase 2.2 of its protective action guidance for responding to building emergencies (<https://go.usa.gov/xs9d3>). The updated measures include detailed information about social distancing during emergencies, evacuation assembly areas and best ways to contact emergency services.

Staff are encouraged to download the Joint Emergency Mass Notification System (JEMNS) on their personal devices to receive alerts. For instructions and more information, go to <https://go.usa.gov/xs5mR>.

Learn more about the Library's emergency guidance: <https://go.usa.gov/xs5mQ>.

Questions? Call (202) 707-8708 or send an email message to epp@loc.gov.

GAZETTE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

loc.gov/staff/gazette

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MISSION OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Library's central mission is to engage, inspire and inform Congress and the American people with a universal and enduring source of knowledge and creativity.

ABOUT THE GAZETTE

An official publication of the Library of Congress, The Gazette encourages Library managers and staff to submit articles and photographs of general interest. Submissions will be edited to convey the most necessary information.

Back issues of The Gazette in print are available in the Communications Office, LM 143. Electronic archived issues and a color PDF file of the current issue are available online at loc.gov/staff/gazette.

GAZETTE WELCOMES LETTERS FROM STAFF

Staff members are invited to use the Gazette for lively and thoughtful debate relevant to Library issues. Letters must be signed by the author, whose place of work and telephone extension should be included so we can verify authorship. If a letter calls for management response, an explanation of a policy or actions or clarification of fact, we will ask for management response.—Ed.

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GAZETTE DEADLINES

The deadline for editorial copy for the April 23 Gazette is Wednesday, April 14.

Email editorial copy and letters to the editor to mhartsell@loc.gov and wmal@loc.gov.

To promote events through the Library's online calendar (www.loc.gov/loc/events) and the Gazette Calendar, email event and contact information to calendar@loc.gov by 9 a.m. Monday of the week of publication.

Boxed announcements should be submitted electronically (text files) by 9 a.m. Monday the week of publication to mhartsell@loc.gov and wmal@loc.gov.

Library Celebrates Jazz Month with Terri Lyne Carrington

The jazz virtuoso will perform virtually and demonstrate jazz drumming fundamentals.

BY CLAUDIA MORALES

April is Jazz Appreciation Month, and the Music Division is honoring it by welcoming jazz drummer, composer, bandleader, producer and educator Terri Lyne Carrington as the 2021 Library of Congress Jazz Scholar.

She will join the division in a livestreamed conversation on April 23 and present a virtual performance of her project, “Terri Lyne Carrington: The New Standards,” on April 24 with pianist Kris Davis, bassist Linda May Han Oh and saxophonist Tia Fuller. Carrington also recorded educational videos on jazz drumming fundamentals to debut on the Library’s website on April 21.

“It’s exciting to be able to share this quintet of short educational videos from Carrington, an artist who is committed to empowering the next generation of musicians,” said Anne McLean of the Music Division’s Concerts Office. “Viewers of all ages will enjoy sampling these elements of jazz drumming technique.”

In a field where the presence of women instrumentalists is scarce, Carrington is a powerhouse: She’s a three-time Grammy-winning recording artist, a Doris Duke Artist Award recipient, a National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Master and founder and artistic director of the Berklee Institute of Jazz and Gender Justice.

Carrington started playing the saxophone at a young age, switching to drums at age 7. She remembers going to jazz clubs with her father and meeting the masters – Carrington grew up surrounded by mentors including B.B. King and Dizzy Gillespie.



Terri Lyne Carrington

Erick Jacobs

In the late 1980s, Carrington moved to Los Angeles and gained recognition on late-night television as the house drummer for the “Arsenio Hall Show” and “Vibe,” Quincy Jones’ show. Her debut Grammy-nominated album, “Real Life Story,” was released in 1989. Her 2012 Grammy-winning album, “The Mosaic Project,” featured an all-women cast of instrumentalists and vocalists.

Carrington’s 2014 Grammy-winning album, “Money Jungle: Provocative in Blue,” made her the first woman to win in the best jazz instrumental album category. Her 2019 release, “Waiting Game,” nominated for a 2021 Grammy, focuses on social justice.

Carrington is a prominent voice on social justice issues in the jazz world. Through her work with the Berklee Institute of Jazz and Gender Justice, Carrington and a team of educators recruit, mentor and advocate for students with gender and racial justice as guiding principles.

“It is impossible to have a conversation about jazz and race without centering it on Black women,” Carrington said during a recent panel discussion at the SFJazz Center.

For her upcoming performance at the Library, Carrington has prepared a program featuring women composers including pieces by Mary Lou Williams, Geri Allen, Maria Schneider, Esperanza Spalding,

Kris Davis, Tia Fuller, Ingrid Jensen and Carrington herself. The program advances these pieces as worthy additions to the traditional jazz standards composed primarily by men.

“‘The New Standards’ will potentially open a new door of empowerment, equity and opportunity for current and future jazz women instrumentalists,” said McLean.

As part of her residency at the Library, Carrington has recorded a unique set of five educational videos on jazz drumming fundamentals. They include drumming techniques like the shuffle groove, the ride cymbal pattern, the five-stroke roll, jazz swing with triple independence and Afro-Cuban jazz rhythms.

The Music Division’s interview with Carrington will take place at 10 a.m. on April 23, and “Terri Lyne Carrington: The New Standards” will premiere at 8 p.m. on April 24. As a special treat, Carrington will join virtual concertgoers on the comment section of the Performing Arts Facebook page.

The program is free and open to the public and, it is presented with the generous support of the Revada Foundation of the Logan Family. ■

More information: www.loc.gov/concerts

Members of Congress Read Around the States

America's rich literary heritage is reflected in its states and territories.

BY GUY LAMOLINARA

The Library last month launched a project called Read Around the States. It features videos of U.S. members of Congress reading from books for young people that are connected to their states. A member might choose a book because of its setting or author, or perhaps simply because it is a favorite.

Each video includes an interview with the book's author conducted by the affiliate Center for the Book in the member's state. The Center for the Book is a Library program that promotes books, reading libraries and literacy nationwide. It achieves its mission with the help of a network of 53 affiliate centers – one in each state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. These centers work with the Library on the National Book Festival and other literary programs and events.

The series was inspired by a conversation between Shari Werb, director of the Center for Learning, Literacy and Engagement (CLLE), and David McMaster, a congressional relations specialist in the Congressional Relations Office.

"David and I were brainstorming on how we could involve members of Congress in our reading programs while at the same time connecting them to our affiliate Centers for the Book," Werb said. Added McMaster: "The members of the Library of Congress Caucus are always looking for ways to showcase the Library and promote its resources for their constituents; it was a natural fit." He noted that the program welcomes all members of Congress from both the House and the Senate.

Three members have already



Center for the Book

Rep. Chellie Pingree of Maine reads from "The Circus Ship" by Chris Van Dusen.

recorded, and their videos are now available. Rep. French Hill of Arkansas' 2nd Congressional District reads from Kate Jerome's "Lucky to Live in Arkansas" (<https://go.usa.gov/xHqRx>). Afterward, Jerome converses with Jennifer Chilcoat and Ruth Hyatt of the Library's Arkansas Center for the Book. Hill opens his discussion by saying, "If there's one thing I love to do it's read."

Rep. Bob Latta of Ohio's 5th Congressional District reads from Douglas Brinkley's "American Moonshot: John F. Kennedy and the Great Space Race" (<https://go.usa.gov/xHqRW>). Don Boozer, head of the Ohio Center for the Book, which is located in the Cleveland Public Library, interviews Brinkley. Latta chose "American Moonshot" for the several ways it relates to his state: Neil Armstrong, the first man to set foot on the moon, was from Ohio (Wapakoneta), and the book's author was

raised in the state (Perrysburg).

Rep. Chellie Pingree of Maine's 1st Congressional District reads from "The Circus Ship" by Chris Van Dusen (<https://go.usa.gov/xHqR9>). Hayden Anderson, executive director of the Maine Humanities Council, home of the Library's Maine Center for the Book, interviews Van Dusen. "The Circus Ship" is based on a true story that takes place near the Maine island where Pingree lives.

The videos are a collaborative effort of Literary Initiatives in CLLE, the Congressional Relations Office and the Multimedia Group, which recorded and edited the videos. New videos will become available as they are recorded.

Even if you aren't from a featured state, the videos are still a great way to see and hear members of Congress reading favorite books and talking about what inspired them to make their choices. ■

**Your Employee Personal Page (EPP) is at
www.nfc.usda.gov/epps/**

Library Debuts New Videos for Cherry Blossom Festival

The films highlight historical and contemporary traditions of spring flower viewing.

The National Cherry Blossom Festival kicked off on March 20 and continues through this weekend. Even though it's concluding soon, it is not too late to enjoy the Library's contribution: a new video series inspired by "Cherry Blossoms: Sakura Collections from the Library of Congress," published last year by the Library and Smithsonian Books.

The video series, "Cherry Blossom Viewing over the Centuries," includes three short films that showcase artifacts from Library collections, including watercolor drawings, colorful woodblock prints, vintage photos and beautifully designed posters from Japanese and American artists.

Developed to support the festival's 2021 efforts to "blossom safely," the four-to-five-minute videos can be enjoyed by viewers everywhere on the Library's YouTube site and website.

The videos are:

- "Cherry Blossoms in Japanese Culture," exploring Japan's centuries-old blossom viewing traditions: <https://go.usa.gov/xss7g>.
 - "Tokyo's Gift of Friendship," recounting the origins and events surrounding the 1912 gift of 3,020 cherry trees to the city of Washington, D.C.: <https://go.usa.gov/xss7j>.
 - "Fleeting Beauty, Enduring Traditions," highlighting the Library's National Cherry Blossom Festival collection, including posters from 1987 to the present and Cherry Blossom Princess programs from 1949 to the present: <https://go.usa.gov/xss7X>.
- "It has definitely been a collaborative effort," Becky Clark, director of the Library's Publishing Office, said of the video series.
- Mari Nakahara and Katherine Blood of the Prints and Photographs Division (P&P) wrote "Cherry Blossoms: Sakura Collections from the Library of Congress," and Aimee



This travel poster celebrating cherry blossom season is featured in the new video series.

Prints and Photographs Division

Hess and Hannah Freece of the Publishing Office edited it. Michael Munshaw of the Design Office created title sequences for the films, and Glenn Ricci of the Multimedia Group secured a narrator, selected music and put the pieces together.

"We are also incredibly grateful for Helena Zinkham's support and enthusiasm," Clark said. Zinkham is chief of P&P.

To find out more about this year's National Cherry Blossom Festival programming, visit nationalcherryblossomfestival.org. ■

Veterans Turn to Farming After Serving

The Veterans History Project (VHP) hosted two panels in March to highlight farming as a career path for veterans transitioning to civilian life. Many face difficulties during the transition, including from physical and psychological traumas or injuries sustained on the battlefield. Personal testimonials point to farming as beneficial for veterans, their families and communities.

The panels focused on the benefits and challenges of farming in urban and rural settings. They premiered on [VHP's Facebook page](#), where recordings remain available.

The first panel took place on March 19 and featured farmer veterans in urban settings who specialize in beekeeping, compost management and vegetable crops. Rep. Kim Schrier of Washington, a member of the House Committee on Agriculture, offered special remarks.

Justin Butts, a 32-year-old African American Navy veteran and former chef, participated in the second panel, held on March 26. He turned his childhood love of farming into a full-time business in upstate New York.

"I always wanted to be a farmer since I was younger, and it was just a matter of finding a path to get there," Butts said. "While in the Navy, I developed an autoimmune disease, and I became more interested in where my food was coming from, so I got more involved in farming."

Sen. John Boozman of Arkansas, a member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, spoke during the event. ■



Peter DeCraene

Peter DeCraene

Peter DeCraene is the Library's 2020–21 Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator in the Center for Learning, Literacy and Engagement (CLLE). The fellowship program appoints accomplished K–12 teachers of science, technology, engineering and mathematics – the so-called STEM fields – to collaborate with federal agencies and congressional offices to advance STEM education across the country.

DeCraene has taught math and computer science to middle and high school students for more than 30 years, most recently at Evanston Township High School in Evanston, Illinois. He has a bachelor's degree in mathematics and a master's degree in computer science from DePaul University and a certificate of advanced study in educational leadership from National Louis University.

As a STEM teacher, what resources at the Library have captivated you?

When I first arrived, I found the Library's statistical atlases from the late 19th century. The beautiful data representations in those books inspired me to write several

posts on the Teaching with the Library of Congress blog (<https://go.usa.gov/xsVC8>) connecting math ideas to history. I've also discovered 19th-century math and "natural philosophy" books – historical STEM is fascinating! Also, I think that *Chronicling America* (<https://go.usa.gov/xsVCn>) and the *Newspaper Navigator* (<https://go.usa.gov/xsVCd>) make for excellent web surfing.

The pandemic has changed so many things this past year. How did it affect your fellowship?

Having to work remotely has been challenging. It's pushed me to think more creatively about how to present information in writing and in webinars. For example, over the last few years, Einstein fellows appointed in different government agencies have met at the Library for a day of tours and workshops on teaching with primary sources. This year, the usual agenda for the day needed some serious modifications.

Susan Mordan White and Erik Harrelson of the Visitor Engagement Office were kind enough to present their tour of the Library online, and Mike Apfeldorf of the Professional Learning and Outreach Office and I adjusted what would have been an in-person workshop for the group, using the Library's digital resources and some online tools. Like teachers across the country, I learned from my quick and clumsy adjustments of last school year and built something engaging for the other fellows. We've leaned on and learned from each other to make remote learning worthwhile.

You're an advocate for equitable access to math and computer science across race and gender. How does your fellowship tie into that goal?

Equity in STEM is among the "grand challenges" that the Einstein Fellowship works to address. We discuss ways to recognize the achievements of underrepresented populations in STEM fields as well as make our classrooms and lessons more inclusive and welcoming to all students.

Even when issues of access and equity are not the main focus of the fellows' monthly professional development sessions, the inclusion of underrepresented communities is always one of the lenses we use to think about our work. I've also appreciated being able to participate in discussions about this with colleagues across CLLE.

How will your experience this year inform your classroom teaching?

There have been many times this year when I thought, "I can't wait to show this to my students!" I'm finding interesting historical tidbits, unexpected math connections and general teaching ideas that I plan to take back with me. I've found that several community-building and teaching strategies I've used look remarkably similar to 19th-century parlor games. Reading books from that era has given me new ideas as well, although I won't be using the suggested forfeits of kisses with my students.

How are you sharing the resources you've discovered?

The Library and the fellowship provide such a big platform for sharing information. From the blog posts and journal articles I'm writing and the presentations and workshops I'm giving to the contacts I'm making, I have many conduits for sharing information and ideas. I also make sure to email colleagues back at school when I find something interesting; my department chair has been including some of my work in his weekly notes to the department and administration.

What do you want STEM educators to know about the Library?

First, there is so much information here! I'm always finding ideas and information to humanize the subjects many students find daunting. The staff and reference librarians are amazing. Want to find something about how arithmetic was taught in the 19th century or biographical information about women scientists? It's here! ■

OCIO, CONTINUED FROM 1

tion points to Library blog posts, event pages and videos.

“Our goal is to make changes to loc.gov intuitive and accessible for a variety of audiences,” Bill Kellum, deputy director of IT design and development, said. “We’ve spent years working in close coordination with subject matter experts from across Library Services’ curatorial units to develop a harmonized online experience for the Library’s users, offering a single interface, design concept and global search.”

The transition to a standardized visual and technical foundation for loc.gov began in 2011 with an effort known as “Project One.” Since then, the loc.gov development team has made continuous improvements to the functionality and presentation of the Library’s many online properties.

Before Project One, Library collections frequently came to life online in an individualized manner, with multiple competing web presentations using unique design and development processes. Although that sometimes delivered a specialized experience for digital collections, it made technical management challenging and created roadblocks for users seeking to find connections between related collection items.

Over time, in partnership with Library content experts, the loc.gov team has refined a set of web requirements that enable greater cohesion among the Library’s collections and resource pages. Common elements – uniform navigation, an “about” page and distinct tabs for collection items and rights statements – are placed in the same location across every Library collection, making it easier and faster for new and experienced users alike to find what they’re looking for.

“Today, our work begins when collection materials are first considered for digitization,” Kellum said. “We work hand in hand with the Library’s curatorial units using

a clearly defined process that considers digitization, metadata creation, technical formatting and the eventual release of a new collection to the Library’s website.”

As part of the Library’s robust digitization program, the loc.gov team is also continually updating previously published collections, adding new items to existing presentations and building enhanced functionality to improve discoverability among them. One of the biggest technical challenges facing the team is ensuring that Library materials cataloged and digitized over decades work together smoothly when presented online.

“Our team’s aim is to take materials from several dozen formats – text snippets, scanned images, audio and video – and make them all work together seamlessly,” Krisztina Thatcher, a loc.gov IT specialist, said. “We’re consistently working toward shortening the distance between the researcher and the materials they’re exploring.”

The group behind this effort consists of about a dozen OCIO developers and engineers who in a given year release between 40 and 60 entirely new collections on the website – while also improving and building out dozens more. This work is in addition to their support of ongoing updates to the Library’s homepage and program and educational resource sites.

Although the team is small, a set of core operational concepts, including continuous, small-scale,

or iterative, updates and a culture of “pair programming,” allows for great efficiency. Pair programming is a software development technique in which two programmers write and review code on the same computer simultaneously, enabling them to check each other’s work at every step of a process.

The team also prioritizes collaboration beyond OCIO. Each week, its members gather with Library Services staff and metadata and digitization experts to review which collections are in the pipeline to be published on loc.gov. When collections are ready to publish, curatorial units arrange them in online storage, and the loc.gov team uses automated technology to “ingest” the stored metadata, picking up collection items and bringing them into the loc.gov presentation.

Given the nearly 175 million visits to loc.gov in 2020 alone, it’s clear that the public’s appetite for the Library’s digital resources is on an upswing.

“At its foundation, our work is about supporting the Library’s mission to connect with the public,” Thatcher said. In the future, the Library’s continuously improving technological capabilities will further enhance searchability on the website and the overall user experience, she added, allowing “the uniqueness of our collections to shine even more brightly.” ■

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